

Application No.: 10/530,695

Preliminary Amendment dated: 11/28/2007

REMARKS**Claim amendment**

Claims 1-43 were originally filed and were cancelled in the preliminary amendment dated 2/01/2006 (the claims were numbered 1-42 with two claims numbered 34). Claims 44-82 were added in that amendment. It is found that claim 74 was mis-numbered and was not presented. Therefore, claims 44-73, 75-82 were pending.

In the current (second) preliminary amendment, claims 44, 62, 71, 75 and 79 are amended to clarify that one of the seismic cable is an "ocean bottom" cable. (See for example in specification pages 6, Fig. 1B, or the original claim 28) Claim 78 is canceled. No new matter has been added. Thus, new claims 44-73, 75-77, 79-82 are pending in the present application.

Request for participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program

It is noted that the pending claims 44-73 and 75-82 are substantively identical to the claims in its GB counterpart, which is now a UK patent, GB 2 394 045 B, issued on 26 July 2006, from an application number 0223673.5, filed on 11 October, 2002.

Claims in present application	Claims in GB patent, 2 394 045 B	Comment
44-62	1-19	Substantially identical.
63-64	20-21	Substantially identical.
none	22-24	The claims in GB patent were not presented.
65-70	25-30	Substantially identical.
71-73	31-33	Substantially identical.
74	none	US claim is not presented.
none	34-35	The claims in GB patent were not presented.
75-76	36-37	Substantially identical.
77	none	US claim is not presented (canceled).
78-82	38-42	Substantially identical.

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All pending claims in the current application are allowed in the GB patent.

A request for participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program between the UKIPO and the USPTO is submitted together with this preliminary amendment.

After the amendment, the current application is ready for examination and is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact (Mark) Liangang Ye at 713-689-5799 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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